WE CLAIM:

1. A method for diagnosis and prognosis of cancer in a subject comprising:

(a) quantitatively detecting annexin protein in a biological sample derived from a subject; and

(b) comparing the level of protein detected in the subject's sample to the level of protein detected in a control sample,

wherein an increase in the level of annexin protein detected in the subject's sample as compared to a control sample is an indicator of a subject with cancer.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the annexin protein is detected using an immunoassay.

3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the immunoassay is an immunoprecipitation assay.

4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the sample is a lung tissue sample.

5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the cancer is lung cancer.

6. A method for diagnosis of a subject with cancer comprising:

(a) contacting an antibody containing biological sample derived from a subject with a sample containing annexin protein antigens under conditions such that an immunospecific antigen-antibody binding reaction can occur; and

(b) detecting immunospecific binding of the autoantibodies to the annexin protein in the subject's biological sample,

wherein the presence of autoantibodies indicates the presence of cancer in the subject.

7. The method of Claim 6 wherein the step of detecting the autoantibodies in the subject's biological sample comprises the use of a signal-generating component bound to an antibody that is specific for antibodies in the subject's biological sample.

8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the presence of autoantibodies in the biological sample is measured by an immunoassay comprising:

(a) immobilizing one or more annexin protein onto a membrane or substrate;

(b) contacting the membrane or substrate with a subject's biological sample; and

(c) detecting the presence of autoantibodies specific for the annexin protein in the subject's biological sample,

wherein the presence of autoantibodies indicates the presence of cancer.

9. The method of Claim 6 wherein the cancer is lung cancer.

10. A kit for diagnosis and prognosis of cancer in a subject comprising a component for detecting the presence of annexin protein in a biological sample.

11. The kit of Claim 10 wherein the component for detecting annexin protein is an anti-annexin antibody.

12. The kit of Claim 11 wherein the anti-annexin antibody is labeled.

13. The kit of Claim 12 wherein the label is radioactive, fluorescent, colorimeter or enzyme label.

14. The kit of Claim 11 further comprising a labeled second antibody that immunospecifically binds to the anti-annexin antibody.

15. A kit for diagnosis and prognosis of cancer in a subject comprising a component for detecting the presence of annexin autoantibodies in a sample.

16. The kit of Claim 15 wherein the component is an annexin antigen.

17. The kit of Claim 16 wherein the annexin antigen is labeled.

18. The kit of Claim 16 wherein the annexin antigen is linked to a solid phase.

19. The kit of Claim 15 further comprising a component for detection of the annexin autoantibody.